

571—12.33 (462A) Boating education program.

12.33(1) In accordance with Iowa Code section 462A.1, the goal of the boating education program and education course is to promote safe and responsible boating practices.

12.33(2) Reciprocity. The department also recognizes safety courses taught by United States Coast Guard Auxiliary- and United States Power Squadron-certified instructors. Students who successfully complete this course are not required to take any additional training or testing from the department and are eligible to receive an education card issued by the department upon proof of successful completion of the course from the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary- or United States Power Squadron-certified instructor and the payment of the \$5 certification fee.

12.33(3) The education course for the boating education program is taught by certified instructors in a classroom setting and shall be a minimum of eight hours in length.

12.33(4) The following criteria apply to the boating education program:

a. Any student who is 11 years of age or older may enroll in a course and receive a certificate if the student successfully completes the course; however, if the student is 11 years old, the certification shall not become valid until the student's twelfth birthday.

b. Students will be given a written examination that they must pass with 80 percent accuracy in order to earn an education certificate.

c. A home study course may be offered at the discretion of the department. The home study packet will contain the same written material provided in the classroom-based setting. An attestation form must be signed by the parent or guardian stating that the student completed the work. A student must pass a written examination with 80 percent accuracy in order to earn an education certificate.

d. The cost of the education course, for both the instructor-led class and the home study option, is \$5 per student. Payment may be made when the student registers for the course or to the instructor at the time of class. Home study students must mail in payment with their completed course paperwork. Payment shall be made by check or money order made payable to the DNR. Course fees are nonrefundable.

e. Students must use the DNR online training registration and tracking system to register for classes unless Internet access is unavailable. Students who do not have access to the Internet, which includes access through a public option such as a school or library, may contact the program coordinator, a department district office, the system administrator, or an instructor to set up a student account and register for the class. Assistance may be found by calling (515)281-5918. Students under the age of 11 must have a parent or guardian establish a user account and register on their behalf.

12.33(5) The department will establish requirements and standards for curriculum, security protocol, and managed delivery. Only vendors that have the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators seal of approval and have entered into a memorandum of understanding with the department will be allowed to offer an online course which results in the issuance of a department education certificate. Vendors may charge for their courses as agreed to in the memorandum of understanding and must collect the department's education certificate fee on behalf of the department.